RESPONSE UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.116 Attorney Docket No. 04173.0403

Serial No.: 09/472,150

15. (Twice Amended) A pressure treatment apparatus for processing a treatment object including a solid waste, comprising:

an exterior vessel:

a pressure reactor installed inside the exterior vessel;

means for feeding a treatment object including a solid waste into the pressure reactor, wherein the means for feeding the treatment object comprises a first solid reservoir and a second solid reservoir which is connected to the first solid reservoir through a first connecting pipe and connected to the pressure reactor through a second connecting pipe;

means for feeding a reaction medium into the pressure reactor, and
means for controlling pressure within a gap between the exterior vessel and the
pressure reactor to be higher than that within the pressure reactor, wherein the exterior
vessel is isolated from the treatment object and the reaction medium.

- 19. (Twice Amended) The pressure treatment apparatus as set forth in claim 15, wherein the pressure reactor is formed of at least one material selected from a group consisting of austenite stainless steel, Ni, Zr, Ti, Ta, Au, Pt, and alloys thereof.
- 20. (Twice Amended) The pressure treatment apparatus as set forth in claim 15, wherein an inner surface of the pressure reactor is lined with at least one material selected from a group consisting of austenite stainless steel, Ni, Zr, Ti, Ta, Au, Pt, and alloys thereof.

## **REMARKS**

In the last Office Action, the Examiner objected to claims 19 and 20 because of informalities. The Examiner rejected claims 15–21, 26, and 27 under 35 U.S.C. § 112,

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